



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Yuma Field Office
2555 East Gila Ridge Road
Yuma, AZ 85365
www.az.blm.gov



CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) FORM

CX-AZ-320-2005-057

Project No.: SRP# AZ320-06

PROJECT NAME: Quartzsite Pumpkin Smasher Poker Run Categorical Exclusion

TECHNICAL REVIEW:

(X)	Program	Reviewer	Signature	Date
X	Air Quality	R. Oyler		
	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern			
X	Botanical, including T & E Species	J. Green		
	Communications (Dispatch)			
X	Cultural Resources	S. Arnold		
	Energy Policy			
	Environmental Justice			
	Farm Lands (Prime or Unique)			
	Fire Management			
	Floodplain			
	Hazardous Material			
	Lands/Realty			
X	Land Law Examiner	F. Rodriguez		
	Law Enforcement			
	Minerals			
	Native American Religious Concerns			
	Non-Native Invasive Species			
	Operations			
X	Recreation	A. Curtis		
	Soils			
	Socioeconomic			
X	Standards for Rangeland Health	R. Oyler		
	Surface Protection			
	Visual Resources			
	Wastes, Hazardous or Solid			
	Water Rights			
	Water Quality, Drinking or Ground			
	Wetlands/Riparian Zones			
	Wild & Scenic Rivers			
	Wilderness			
	Wild Horses and Burros			
X	Wildlife including T & E Species	J. Young		

Prepared by: _____

Aaron Curtis
Outdoor Recreation Planner

Date: _____

Reviewed by: _____

Karen Reichhardt
Planning & Environmental Coordinator

Date: _____

Reviewed by: _____

Karla Norris
Assistant Field Manager

Date: _____

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File No.: SRP# AZ320-06

Location (legal description):

Poker Run Route	Legal Description
BLM OHV Route LP (La Posa) 234	T. 4 N., R. 19 W., sec. 20
LP 233	T. 4 N., R. 19 W., secs. 17 and 20
LP 595	T. 4 N., R. 19 W., secs. 5, 8, and 9; T. 5 N., R. 19 W., secs. 29, 30, 32, and 33; T. 5 N., R. 20 W., secs. 14, 15, 23, and 24
LP 100	T. 5 N., R. 20 W., secs. 15, 22, 23, 24, and 25; T. 5 N., R. 19 W., secs. 30 and 31
LP 233	T. 5 N., R. 19 W., secs. 30 and 31; T. 5 N., R. 20 W., secs. 25, 26, 34, and 35
LP 765 (begins at Boyer Gap)	T. 5 N., R. 20 W., secs. 33 and 34
LP 761	T. 5 N., R. 20 W., secs. 32 and 33; T. 4 N., R. 20 W., secs. 5 and 8
LP 293	T. 4 N., R. 20 W., secs. 8, 15, 16, 17, 22, 26, and 27
LP 299	T. 4 N., R. 20 W., sec. 26 and 27
LP 305	T. 4 N., R. 20 W., secs. 27, 28, and 33
LP 310	T. 4 N., R. 20 W., sec. 33
LP 366	T. 4 N., R. 20 W., sec. 33; T. 3 N., R. 20 W., secs. 4, 9, 14, 15, and 16
LP 385	T. 3 N., R. 20 W., secs. 14, 23, 26, 27, 28, and 34
Pipeline Road	T. 3 N., R. 20 W., secs. 27, 28, 34, 35, and 36; T. 3 N., R. 19 W., sec. 31
Old Yuma Road	T. 3 N., R. 19 W., secs. 4, 5, 8, 17, 20, 29, 30, and 31; T. 4 N., R. 19 W., secs. 28, 29, and 33

Applicant: Quartzsite Chamber of Commerce, Quartzsite 4 Wheelers Club

Description of Proposed Action: On October 29, 2005 approximately 45 4-wheeled off-highway vehicles (OHV) would travel on approximately 68 miles of BLM-designated motorized trails surrounding the Town of Quartzsite in La Paz County, Arizona (please see attached map). Participants would stop at various checkpoints along the route to receive playing cards, and the participants with the best hands at the end of the journey would be awarded prizes. Scenic OHV touring is the primary purpose of the event, it is not a competitive race based on speed and time. No spectators would be on site, and the staging area would not be located on BLM lands.

The proposed event would conform to the Final Yuma District Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement of 1987 for the following reasons:

- BLM's principle objective would be to ensure that adequate recreation opportunities are provided for a broad range of recreating publics (General Recreation, page 21).

- Participants would stay on existing roads and trails (ORV Use, page 23).

Categorical Exclusion Reference: Categorical Exclusion 516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4:H.5: Issuance of special recreation permits to individuals or organized groups for search and rescue training, orienteering or similar activities and for dog trials, endurance horse races or similar minor events.

Required Stipulations: Participants would be required to stay on BLM-designated routes and trails, as cross-country vehicle travel is prohibited by state and Federal law. Staging areas and checkpoints along the route would be located at least 0.25 miles away from wildlife water holes and catchments.

Compliance and Monitoring Responsibility: YFO Recreation & Visitor Services staff would ride along with participants to ensure stipulation compliance and provide Tread Lightly! and Leave No Trace outreach materials.

Decision:

BLM has determined that the proposal conforms to the land use plan, is in accordance with the categorical exclusion criteria, and that it will not involve any significant adverse environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review. The Proposed Action will have no effect on the President's Energy Policy and a Statement of Adverse Energy Impact is not required. The proposed action will be implemented subject to the stipulations within the authorizing document.

Approved by: _____
Rebecca Heick
Yuma Field Manager

Date: _____

Categorical Exclusion Review

Department of the Interior Departmental Manual 516 2.3.A(3) provides for a review of the following categorical exclusion criteria to determine if exceptions apply to this project. The following exceptions apply to individual actions within categorical exclusions (CX).

Environmental documents must be prepared for actions which may:

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1 Have adverse effects on public health or safety.	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
2 Have adverse effects on such unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, parks, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or main drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks.	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
3 Have highly controversial environmental impacts.	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects, or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
5 Establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
6 Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
7 Adversely affect properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places.	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
8 Adversely affect species listed, or proposed for listing, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or adversely affect designated critical habitat for these species.	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
9 Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
10 Threaten to violate federal, state, local, or tribal law, or requirements imposed for protecting the environment.	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>

2005 Quartzsite Poker Run Route

